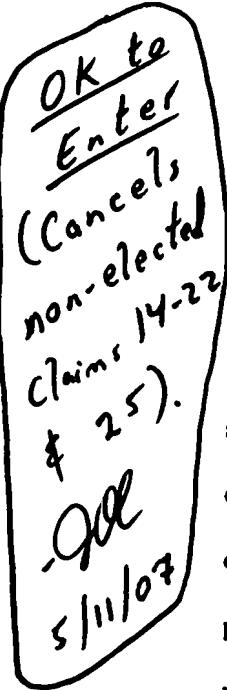


Appl. No. 10/013,078
Amtd. dated April 30, 2007
Reply to Office Action of February 1, 2007



Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-4 (cancelled)

5. (previously presented): A method of detecting misappropriation of goods in a self-checkout lane in a store, the self-checkout lane having an incoming goods path and a goods collection zone, and goods being passed, in service, from the incoming goods path into the goods collection zone; the incoming goods path including a product scanner electrically coupled to a processor, and the goods collection zone including a weighing scale electrically coupled to the processor, the method being performed by a processor and comprising the steps:

- (a) receiving input from the product scanner identifying goods introduced into the incoming goods path;
- (b) controlling one or more barriers at least partially surrounding the goods collection zone so as to restrict customer access to goods collecting in the goods collection zone;
- (c) calculating, by referring to a database of product weights, a total weight value representative of the total weight of the goods introduced into the incoming goods path;
- (d) once all the goods being checked out by a particular customer have passed onto the weighing scale, weighing the goods collectively at the goods collection zone by the weighing scale and producing a total weight signal for all the goods;
- (e) receiving from the weighing scale the total weight signal; and